

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A towel rod supporting apparatus comprising: a cylindrical base portion for placement against a mounting surface and for extending outwardly therefrom; a cylindrical extension portion engaging the base portion and extending outwardly therefrom; and a cap portion engaged with the extension portion, the cap portion providing cap holes therein; a first fastening means engaged with the cap holes and extending through the
10 extension portion and the base portion into the mounting surface, thereby securing the apparatus to the mounting surface; the cap portion further providing a receiving means adapted for engaging a second fastening means; whereby a towel rod holder may be mounted on the apparatus using the second fastening means.
- 15 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the receiving means is linearly positionable on the cap portion.
3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the base portion provides an annular external recess and the extension portion provides an annular lip sized for nesting the base portion and the extension portion.
- 20 4. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising an accessory portion enabled for being engaged between the base portion and the extension portion, the accessory portion providing at least one of a robe hook, a cup holder and a toothbrush holder.
5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the extension portion provides a second annular internal recess sized for nesting the extension portion and the cap portion.
- 25 6. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the base portion provides an annular external recess and the accessory portion provides an annular lip sized for nesting the base portion and the accessory portion.
7. The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the extension portion provides a first annular internal recess sized for nesting the extension portion and the accessory portion.

8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the base portion, extension portion and cap portion each provide a keying means for interconnecting the base portion, extension portion and cap portion in a preferred rotational orientation and to prevent independent rotation after assembly.
- 5 9. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a base portion fastening means for engaging the base portion onto the mounting surface.
- 10 10. A pair of towel rods with supporting apparatus comprising: a pair of spaced apart towel rod holders for placement against a mounting surface and for extending outwardly therefrom and for holding a first towel rod at a distance from the mounting surface; and a pair of cylindrical base portions for placement against the mounting surface below the first towel rod and extending outwardly therefrom, below the base portions respectively; a pair of cylindrical extension portions each engaging one of the base portions and extending outwardly therefrom; and a pair of cap portions, each engaged with one of the second extension portions, the cap portions each providing cap holes therein; a first
15 fastening means engaged with the cap holes of the cap portions and extending through the extension portions and the base portions into the mounting surface, thereby securing the cap portions, the extension portions and the base portions to the mounting surface; the cap portions each further providing a receiving means adapted for engaging a second fastening means; a pair of second towel rod holders mounted on the cap portions using
20 the second fastening means; and a second towel rod engaged with the second towel rod holders; the second towel rod positioned further away from the mounting surface than the first towel rod holder.